



## Western Library System Helping libraries serve our communities.

November/December 2018

### Ramblings from the Interim:

Well, my time has come to an end in this job. I have really enjoyed getting to know more people, and getting a better understanding of the differences between school librarians and public librarians. I have traveled to places I haven't traveled before, and done things I haven't done before. Thanks for allowing me to "stand in" and for the memories. So, until we meet again, ramble on!

**Kathy Terrell**, Interim Director

*Reading is an exercise in empathy; an exercise in walking in someone else's shoes for a while."*

*Malorie Blackman*

## HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

By Jan Jolliffe, Director

As the holiday season rolls around, it's time to reflect upon the positive impact that our libraries have. As the hub of the community, libraries provide resources such as books, databases, and internet for research, pleasure and current information; our youth and after school programs provide social and learning opportunities for the youngest patrons; book clubs and morning coffee/tea times offer others a place to socialize and share skills; and many of our patrons use our library programs and spaces for genealogy research, to learn a new hobby, or even search for a new job. Check out the following pages for current pictures and articles of what our libraries are providing. Our western Nebraska libraries are buzzing with excitement for everyone!

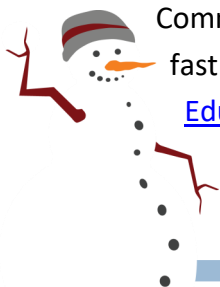
Several of our western libraries have hosted, or are currently hosting, a [Library Innovation Studio](#). This provides our patrons with new equipment as they learn a new skill set, while others are becoming budding entrepreneurs, with prospects of new business opportunities. The Nebraska Library

Commission also currently has several grants open, with deadlines

fast approaching, so remember to apply soon for the [Continuing Education and Training Grants 2018](#), and the [2018 Nebraska Library Internship Grant Program](#) just to name a few. Check out <http://nebraskaccess.ne.gov/grants.asp> for even more opportunities, and Happy Holidays to all!!!

### In This Issue:

- ♦ Ramblings from (Kathy) the Interim & Jan Jolliffe's "Holiday Happenings"
- ♦ Display/Programming Ideas
- ♦ Mark Your Calendar, NCompass Live and Basic Skills
- ♦ 2019 One Book One Nebraska: *This Blessed Earth: A Year in the Life of an American Family Farm*
- ♦ Nebraska's 2018 Book Award Winners
- ♦ News You Can Use
- ♦ Happenings Around the System
- ♦ Librarians Around the System



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 Administrative Assistant  
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# November/December Display and Programming Ideas

## **Child Safety and Protection Month**

It is everyone's job to help keep children safe. Teachers and parents can request free McGruff Safe Kids ID Kits using this website: <https://www.mcgruffsafekit.com/united-states>.

## **National Family Literacy Month**

The National Center for Families Learning has prepared a guide to 30 Days of Families Learning Together. This guide provides a month's worth of family literacy activities and practices designed to inspire family memories rooted in imagining, playing, and learning together. See this guide at <http://30days.familieslearning.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/NCFL30Days.pdf>.

(Also available in Spanish)

## **Discovery of King Tutankhamen's Tomb (November 4, 1922)**

King Tutankhamen's tomb was discovered on this day in 1922. Build a display of archeology resources, Egyptian travel guides and Middle Eastern history.

## **International Games Week (November 4-10)**

Host a gaming event in your library to help create awareness of the value of all types of games; reconnect your community through their educational, recreational and social value.

<http://games.ala.org/international-games-week/>

## **National Pickle Day (November 14)**

On National Pickle Day, host a pickle-themed party with a food tasting offering all of the sweet, sour, spicy and strange flavors of pickled vegetables. Offer tasting scorecards to encourage discussion, and judge favorites. Display your books about pickling and preservation.

<http://www.holidayscalendar.com/event/national-pickle-day/>

## **James Bond's Birthday (November 16)**

This is one of the dates celebrated as James Bond's birthday (the other is November 11).

Celebrate Ian Fleming's most enduring character with a display of [super spy flicks and books](#).

## **World Hello Day (November 21)**

Learn how to say "Hello" in 100 languages with pronunciation guides and map locators.

<https://bilingua.io/how-to-say-hello-in-100-languages>.

## **Black Friday (November 23)**

Create a display of "Black Friday Deals" featuring book bundles, new books and tried-and-true favorites for patrons to check out on this special deal day!

**Celebration of Nebraska Books - (December 1)** Make a Nebraska themed display, or have a read-a-loud storytime to honor authors and publishers of books with a Nebraska connection.

<http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov/programs/celebration.html>

**Gingerbread House Day - (December 12)** Celebrate the German tradition that evolved from crusaders bringing ginger and exotic spices from the Middle East around the 11th century. Host a gingerbread house competition, throw on some holiday tunes, and wash it all down with a gingerbread latte. <https://nationaltoday.com/national-gingerbread-house-day/>

**National Ugly Sweater Day - (December 21)** Have an ugly sweater contest and include knitting lessons for all ages. Collect sweaters and blankets for local donation centers and shelters.

**Phileas Fogg Win a Wager Day – December 21** Have a book club reading of *Around the World in 80 Days* by Jules Verne. Promote books of different countries, and explore the different cultures of the areas they might travel to. Have a map reading session and discuss the topography of different states and continents.

**National Flashlight Day (December 22)** Celebrate the winter solstice by having an inside camping trip with your youngest patrons. Provide makeshift tents and flashlights for reading by the "campfire" while enjoying some s'mores.

## Mark Your Calendar

### 26th Annual Letters About Literature Contest

Open now until December 14  
<http://www.read.gov/letters/>

### Trees Along the Trail - Legacy of the Plains Museum

Gering, NE, 12/21- 12/22  
 Come out and support the WLS's Christmas tree. \$1.00 tickets to vote.  
<http://legacyoftheplains.org/events/trees-along-the-trail/>

### Public Library Statistical Survey

Opens November 5  
<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/stats/bibliostatcollect.aspx>

### Celebration of Nebraska Books

December 1, 2:30 - 6:30  
 (Central time)  
 Nebraska History Museum  
 Lincoln, NE  
<http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov/programs/celebration.html>

### E-rate: What's New for 2019?

December 11, Online, 1:30 - 4:00  
 (Central time)  
 using the GoToWebinar  
 Registration: 10/20-12/9



# Upcoming NCompass Live

Upcoming NCompass Live events:

- November 7 - [Letters About Literature: Read. Be Inspired. Write Back.](#)
- November 14 - [Reading Reflections: What Kids Are Reading Now](#)
- November 28 - [Public Library Survey Using Bibliostat](#)
- December 5 - [Popular Teen Novels: New Books They Need to Read](#)
- December 12 - [Summer Reading: The Next Frontier!](#)
- December 19 - [A Textbook Program is NOT for Us! Re-Imagining Failure Into New Possibilities](#)

**NCompass Live is broadcast live, every Wednesday, from 9am - 10am Mountain Time.**

For more information, to register for NCompass Live, or to listen to recordings of past events, go to: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/NCompassLive/>

## Basic Skills for Nebraska Librarians 2018 Schedule

Class Dates	Class	Instructor	Registration Dates
11/5 - 11/17	<a href="#">Leadership</a>	Holli Duggan	10/8 - 10/26
12/3 - 12/14	<a href="#">Library Services to Children &amp; Teens</a>	Sally Snyder	11/1 - 11/23
1/1 - 1/31	<a href="#">Communication*</a>	Self-paced	12/3 - 12/21
2/11 - 2/22	<a href="#">Customer Service*</a>	Christa Porter	1/14 - 2/1
3/4 - 3/15	<a href="#">Library Governance</a>	Denise Harders	2/4 - 2/22

(\* Requisite class)

Register on the Nebraska Library Commission [Training and Events Calendar](#).

[Description of Basic Skills courses](#)

[Basic Skills Planner](#)--for program participants to keep track of their progress

For further information, contact [Holli Duggan](#), NLC Continuing Education

Visit the Nebraska Library Commission Website for News and Announcements.





## *This Blessed Earth: A Year in the Life of an American Family Farm*

### Chosen as 2019 One Book One Nebraska

People across Nebraska are encouraged to read the work of a fourth-generation Nebraskan —and then talk about it with their friends and neighbors. *This Blessed Earth: A Year in the Life of an American Family Farm* (W. W. Norton & Company, 2017) by Ted Genoways is the joint 2019 One Book One Nebraska and All Iowa Reads selection.

*This Blessed Earth* asks the question, is there still a place for the farm in today's America? The family farm lies at the heart of our national identity, yet its future is in peril. Far from an isolated refuge beyond the reach of global events, the family farm is increasingly at the crossroads of emerging technologies and international detente. Ted Genoways explores this rapidly changing landscape of small, traditional farming operations, mapping as it unfolds day to day.

For forty years, Rick Hammond has raised cattle and crops on his wife's fifth-generation farm. But as he prepares to hand off the operation to his daughter Meghan and her husband Kyle, their entire way of life is under siege. Confronted by rising corporate ownership, encroaching pipelines, groundwater depletion, climate change, and shifting trade policies, small farmers are often caught in the middle and fighting just to preserve their way of life. Following the Hammonds from harvest to harvest, *This Blessed Earth* is both a history of American agriculture and a portrait of one family's struggle to hold on to their legacy.

Libraries across Nebraska will join other literary and cultural organizations in planning book discussions, activities, and events that will encourage Nebraskans to read and discuss this book. Support materials to assist with local reading/discussion activities will be available after January 1, 2019 at:

<http://onebook.nebraska.gov>. Updates and activity listings will be posted on the One Book One Nebraska Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/onebookonenebraska>.

2019 will mark the fifteenth year of the One Book One Nebraska reading program, sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book. It encourages Nebraskans across the state to read and discuss one book, chosen from books written by Nebraska authors or that have a Nebraska theme or setting.

One Book One Nebraska is sponsored by Nebraska Center for the Book, Humanities Nebraska, and Nebraska Library Commission. The Nebraska Center for the Book brings together the state's readers, writers, booksellers, librarians, publishers, printers, educators, and scholars to build the community of the book, supporting programs to celebrate and stimulate public interest in books, reading, and the written word. The Nebraska Center for the Book is housed at and supported by the Nebraska Library Commission.



The most up-to-date news releases from the Nebraska Library Commission are always available on the Library Commission Website, <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/publications/newsreleases>.

## Nebraska's 2018 Book Award Winners

**Children's Picture Book:** *Simpson's Sheep Just Want to Sleep* by Bruce Arant. Publisher: Peter Pauper Press, Inc.

**Chapter Book:** *George and the Stolen Sunny Spot* by Kristin Bauer Ganoung. Publisher: Prairieland Press

**Young Adult:** *The November Girl* by Lydia Kang. Publisher: Entangled Teen

**Cover/Design/Illustration:** *Nebraska's First College: Shaping the Future Since 1867* by Dan Sullivan. Design by Christine Zueck-Watkins. Publisher: Peru State College Foundation

**Fiction:** *World, Chase Me Down: A Novel* by Andrew Hilleman. Publisher: Penguin Books

**Fiction Honor:** *Kings of Broken Things* by Theodore Wheeler. Publisher: Little A

**Fiction Short Story Honor:** *One With Bird: And Other Stories* by Douglas K. German. Publisher: iUniverse

**Nonfiction Biography:** *The Weight of the Weather: Regarding the poetry of Ted Kooser* edited by Mark Sanders. Publisher: Stephen F. Austin State University Press

**Nonfiction Culture:** *The Sex Effect: Baring Our Complicated Relationship with Sex* by Ross Benes. Publisher: Sourcebooks, Inc.

**Nonfiction History:** *Homesteading the Plains: Toward a New History* by Richard Edwards, Jacob K. Friefeld, and Rebecca S. Wingo. Publisher: University of Nebraska Press

**Nonfiction Immigration Story:** *Short Hair Detention: Memoir of a Thirteen-Year-Old Girl Surviving the Cambodian Genocide* by Channy Chhi Laux. Publisher: Archway Publishing

**Nonfiction Memoir:** *What is Gone* by Amy Knox Brown. Publisher: Texas Tech University Press

**Nonfiction Reference:** *Atlas of Nebraska* by J. Clark Archer, Richard Edwards, Leslie M. Howard, Fred M. Shelley, Donald A. Wilhite, and David J. Wishart. Publisher: University of Nebraska Press

**Nonfiction Sesquicentennial:** *150@150: Nebraska's Landmark Buildings at the State's Sesquicentennial* by Jeff Barnes. Publisher: The Donning Company Publishers

**Poetry:** *Rock Tree Bird* by Twyla M. Hansen. Publisher: The Backwaters Press

**Poetry Honor:** *Blind Girl Grunt: The Selected Blues Lyrics and Other Poems* by Constance Merritt. Publisher: Headmistress Press

**Poetry Anthology:** *Nebraska Poetry: A Sesquicentennial Anthology 1867-2017* edited by Daniel Simon. Publisher: Stephen F. Austin State University Press

The Celebration of Nebraska Books will also honor winners of the 2018 Jane Geske and Mildred Bennett awards. The Mildred Bennett Award recognizes individuals who have made a significant contribution to fostering the literary tradition in Nebraska, reminding us of the literary and intellectual heritage that enriches our lives and molds our world. The Jane Geske Award is presented to a Nebraska organization for exceptional contribution to literacy, books, reading, libraries, or literature in Nebraska. It commemorates Geske's passion for books, and was established in recognition of her contributions to the well-being of the libraries of Nebraska.



Information provided by Nebraska Center for the Book:

<http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov>





## Highlights from the Commission Website: Talking Book and Braille Service

To borrow from us, a person would need to be signed up as a borrower from the Talking Book and Braille Service in general, which would entail filling out the individual application found here:

<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/tbbs/applications/individual.pdf>

To qualify, borrowers would come to us with a visual or physical impairment that makes them unable to use regular print materials. Generally a patron's doctor or nurse signs the eligibility section of the form at the bottom of the first page.

This application will of course allow patrons to use any of the materials in our collections, and we would send them a playback machine to use our extensive collection of talking books. The old-time radio collections are kind of an exception to the playback equipment issue, however: those are commercial materials intended to be used with a patron's own cassette or CD players. The same applies for our descriptive video collections, which have movies in VHS and DVD formats with an additional dialogue track added that describes on-screen actions in between the film's soundtrack. Patrons would have to use their own DVD or VHS players for those as well.

The list of titles in those old time radio collections is here:

Radio Shows on Compact Disc and Cassette:

\*NSC Audio Cassettes PRINTABLE (PDF) edition (This edition only lists cassette tapes)

<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/tbbs/radio-nsc.pdf>

\*NCD Compact Discs PRINTABLE (PDF) edition (This edition only lists CD discs)

<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/tbbs/radio-ncd.pdf>

And more generally, you can find a range of different collection catalogs here: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/tbbs/catalogs.aspx#magazine>

Information provided by: Scott Scholz, Director  
Nebraska Library Commission  
Talking Book and Braille Service

### Governor Ricketts Names Appointments to Nebraska Library Commission

Governor Pete Ricketts recently appointed **Arun Kumar Pondicherry** and **Lois Todd-Meyer**, both of Lincoln, to three-year terms on the Nebraska Library Commission. Governor Ricketts also reappointed **Debby Whitehall Bloom**, of Omaha, to a second three year term.

They join current Commissioners **Michael LaCroix** (Chair, Omaha), **Charles Peek** (Kearney), and **Sandy White** (Sidney) serving on the Nebraska Library Commission - the policy-making body ensuring that the agency is fully responsible for the statewide promotion, development, and coordination of library programs and services.

### A CELEBRATION OF *Nebraska Books*

**SAVE the <sup>NEW</sup> DATE** Dec. 1, 2018  
2:30-6:30pm

**NEBRASKA HISTORY MUSEUM**  
131 Centennial Mall North • Lincoln, NE



#### JOIN US TO CELEBRATE:

2018 One Book One Nebraska  
*Nebraska Presence: An Anthology of Poetry*  
edited by Greg Kosmicki & Mary K. Stillwell  
Nebraska Book Award Winners

Mildred Bennett & Jane Geske Award Presentation  
2019 One Book One Nebraska Announcement  
Reception and Book Signings

*More Info:*

[centerforthebook.nebraska.gov](http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov)  
[facebook.com/NebraskaCenterfortheBook](https://facebook.com/NebraskaCenterfortheBook)

## Train Like an Astronaut

### Summer Reading Program 2019

[Association of Rural and Small Libraries](#)



Mission X: Train Like an Astronaut is an international educational challenge focusing on fitness and nutrition to encourage students to “train like an astronaut”.

Mission X is focused on fitness and nutrition because we know that a healthy body is necessary to be a Fit Explorer!

Astronauts know the vital importance of physical training for mission success, and we are excited for kids all over the world to learn from them. ESA Astronaut and 2015 Mission X Ambassador Samantha Cristoforetti said, “Your body is your spaceship for life” and the Train Like an Astronaut activities are designed to help you stay healthy for life.

Teams of elementary students will learn principles of healthy eating and exercise, compete for points, and get excited about space and the educational possibilities for their own future. Students will practice scientific reasoning and teamwork while participating in hands-on training missions targeting strength, endurance, coordination, balance, spatial awareness, and more.

To learn how to sign up and to see some of the supporting material, go to <https://www.nasa.gov/tla>.

Information provided by Denise Harders, Central Plains Library System

## 2018 Nebraska Library Internship Grant Program

The Nebraska Library Commission will make up to \$25,000 available to accredited Nebraska public libraries for internships through the 2018 Nebraska Library Internship Grant Program. This project is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.

This internship program works to introduce high school and college students to the varied and exciting work of Nebraska libraries. The internships are intended to function as a recruitment tool, helping the student to view the library as a viable career opportunity while providing the public library with the finances (up to \$1,000 per library or branch) to provide stipends to the student interns. In the past student interns have helped the libraries expand programs, complete projects, improve websites, and expand social media use, while bringing fresh ideas into the library.

[Grant applications](#) will be accepted electronically starting September 27, 2018. All applications must be received by **11:59pm Central Time on November 16, 2018**



### Would you like to become a reader for the Golden Sower Reading Committee?

The Golden Sower Award is the children's choice award for the state of Nebraska. Beginning in 1981, the Golden Sower Award has been given to authors and illustrators of outstanding books chosen for the award by Nebraska students.

Many schools and public libraries are already participating in the Golden Sower process by being voting sites for the children. Thousands of Nebraska's students participate in the Golden Sower Award program each year. Have you ever wondered how the nominee lists are created?

Each award category (Picture Books, Chapter Books and Novels) has a reading committee consisting of librarians, teachers and other interested adults. Volunteer readers are responsible for reading youth books for the publication years under consideration and suggesting books of high-quality to be read by other members. Volunteers read during the months of September through mid-July. At the end of July, readers are asked to submit votes for their top ten titles. Readers are invited to attend a selection meeting held in late July to review the top selections and to determine the titles to be placed on the master list for the children.

Volunteer readers can choose to read for as many levels as they wish.

Volunteer readers must vote at least once every two years to remain on the mailing list.

Being a reader requires the reading of a substantial number of youth books each year.

It also requires reaching consensus with others who may bring diverse interests and backgrounds.

Are you interested in becoming part of the process? Consider volunteering to become a Golden Sower reader! Contact the following to sign up to be a volunteer reader:

Picture Book Coordinator: Shawna Lindner [slindner@kearneygov.org](mailto:slindner@kearneygov.org)

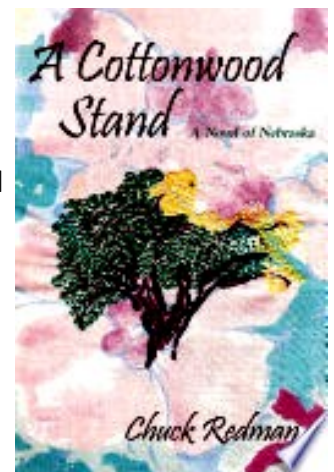
Chapter Book Coordinator: Shawna Lindner [slindner@kearneygov.org](mailto:slindner@kearneygov.org)

Novels Coordinator: Jill Annis [jannis@epsne.org](mailto:jannis@epsne.org)

#### A new book from Nebraska-born author Chuck Redman:

*A Cottonwood Stand* is a novel set in central Nebraska. The book is a dual story-line. The first story is a historical account of an Oglala Sioux girl, while the second is about the town's cottonwood stand versus a company bringing in a meat slaughtering plant. The language is laid-back, and homey. While sometimes hard to keep track of the time period, this book has been well reviewed, and could be a good addition to your collection about Nebraska.

Information provided by Kathy Terrell





# Western Library System Scholarship Application

The Western Library System established a scholarship fund to facilitate the professional development of librarians within the system. Librarians, Media Specialists, and those connected with member agencies within the System may use these monies for attendance at professional meetings, classes, workshops, or other beneficial academic activities. Upon approval, funds will be dispersed after the Western Library System Board's next bi-monthly meeting.

Provisions of the Scholarship include:

1. Each applicant must submit an application letter and form any time prior to or two weeks after the event for which the scholarship is intended.
2. The Scholarship Committee will review each application received.
3. The Scholarship Committee has the right to adjust the amount requested depending on the budget and the number of applications received during the fiscal year, with a maximum request of \$200.00.
4. Scholarships evaluated on a first-come, first-serve basis.
5. Priority given to events within the state.
6. Individual applicants are limited to requesting scholarships once in a two-year period.
7. Scholarship recipients will provide a brief article in the System Newsletter as a form of resource sharing within one month of completion of the activity. Submit articles to the WLS office.

Scholarship Committee Western Library System 115 Railway Street Scottsbluff, NE 69361

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Western Library System Scholarship Application

Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Library/School/Agency: Click or tap here to enter text.

Phone and Email: Click or tap here to enter text.

Event Date: Click or tap here to enter text.

Requested Amount: Click or tap here to enter text.

Please describe the activity, why you want to attend this activity, and how it will contribute to your professional growth.

(Please attach a separate typed sheet if necessary)

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Date Click or tap here to enter text.

Return completed form to the WLS Scholarship Committee c/o Western Library System Mail: Western Library System, 115 Railway Street, Scottsbluff, NE 69361 Email: [wlsasst@gmail.com](mailto:wlsasst@gmail.com), Fax: 308-632-3978

## Heifer International

"Heifer's Milk Money program connects your classroom with another class around the world to provide more than milk -- your students can deliver a bright and healthy future for school children in Tanzania today!"

Every \$2 you raise = 1 week of milk for a student in Tanzania

"We will reward the top 5 schools who raise the most money with an opportunity to send one of their staff to visit Milk Money in person!"

<https://www.heifer.org/>

# Escape from the Library of Curiosities

Article and photos by Elaine Connelly Bleisch

Children and Youth Services Librarian, Alliance Public Library

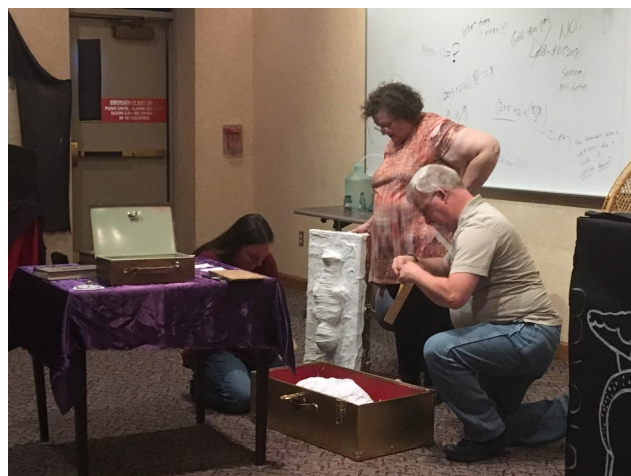


The Alliance Public Library hosted an Escape Room as a Library Foundation fundraiser for the two weekends before Halloween. The theme of the room was “Escape from the Library of Curiosities.” We were able to use one of our meeting rooms to set up the room, and

borrowed props from the Main Street Players Community Theater here in Alliance. The décor for the room was drawn from various books, including Dracula, Frankenstein, The Raven, and Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. Books were also used as clues or to decipher coded messages.

The object of this live-action game was actually not to escape the room but to find the antidote to the Dr. Jekyll/Mr. Hyde potion and save the sanity of one of our librarians. The antidote was locked in a box that was in another locked box, and the key was locked in yet another box with five locks on it. In total, there were 11 locks that needed to be opened, using either keys or combinations. Clues to the combinations were hidden around the room (sometimes in plain sight). There were coded messages, picture clues, hidden keys, and even math problems that had to be solved.

The idea for the room was planted last spring when we borrowed the Western Nebraska Library System’s Breakout EDU set. We did three “locked box” challenges for grade school and middle-school kids, with each one a little more complicated than the last. We also had a staff member who tried out a couple of professional escape rooms to get a better idea of how they worked. Planning for the room began in earnest in July, with puzzles and clues being worked out. Locks and props were gathered and the room was finally put together two weeks before opening. We then tested the room with various mixed groups: 6<sup>th</sup> graders, adults, and teens. The room was aimed at ages eight and up, and we encouraged families to attend together. The room was very well attended, with 121 people over six days (two weekends). We had 26 slots for teams of up to six people. They each had an hour to find the antidote and were allowed 3 hints each. Since many of our participants had never done an escape room before, we also were able to watch them and step in if they were going completely off track. Our goal was for everyone to have fun, and we had such a good response we plan to do another one soon.

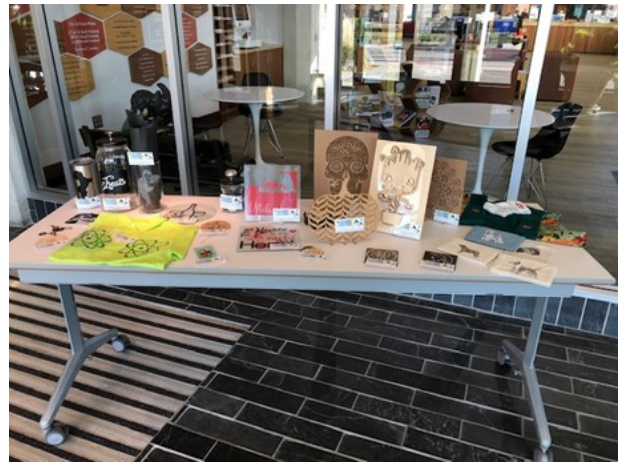


## Innovation Studio Open House Lied Scottsbluff Public Library

The Innovation Studio is now open at Lied Scottsbluff Public Library, and the community celebrated the project with an Open House on October 27. The Friends of the Scottsbluff Library provided refreshments and staff, volunteers, and interns demonstrated the equipment all morning and afternoon, including building a Lego Mindstorms robot, decorating kitchen trivets with the vinyl cutter, and taking photos in front of the green screen. Children attending the event made buttons and bookmarks to commemorate the start of the project as well. To reserve a time to use or train on the equipment, call the Lied Scottsbluff Public Library. The equipment will remain in Scottsbluff until the beginning of February, and the Studio is open the same hours as the library, Monday-Thursday, 9am-7pm and Friday-Saturday, 9am-5pm.



Friends Nancy and Harriett serve cookies



Items made by staff, interns, and volunteers are put on display



Anne demonstrates the MakeyMakey



Michael demonstrates the 3D printer



Peggie demonstrates the button maker

Article and photos provided by Noelle Thompson, Director  
Lied Scottsbluff Public Library



# Happenings Around the System

## Sewing with High Schoolers

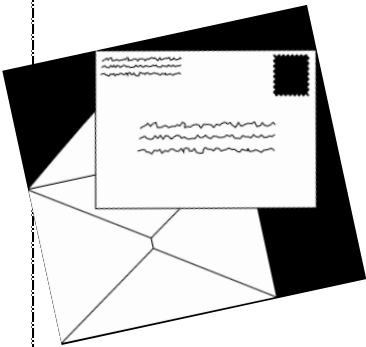
I was privileged to talk to some high schoolers in a FCS class about quilting. You might wonder why I would be there, but quilting is a passion of mine, and sharing with the next generation is so important! We talked about patterns, times to sew, why even make quilts, and sewing machines. Most of the kids don't have access to sewing machines at home, so we discussed options for those who want to sew after their class in school. A couple of things came to mind to share with them. First, was the Innovation Studio at the public library. One of the students had even played around with that machine. I realize there is only one machine in the studio, however, it is an option for kids to experiment. My second idea was a Makerspace. Brown Fiber Arts School-house, outside of Scottsbluff, plans to put sewing machines in a classroom for class usage. Maybe you can also think of some ideas.

Our "old-time" crafts need to be kept alive and shared. As librarians, having a sewing machine for public usage isn't always possible, but books and classes are something we can all make available. Another thought came to mind. What about a sewing machine to check out? I know some of you have electronic notebooks for checkout, and a sewing machine is a little larger and more complex, but, is it a possibility? Hmmm - my mind is churning!

Kathy Terrell



## Results From the Letter Writing Clinic



**Bayard Public Library:** The day of the clinic, we had 16 kids that attended. We had Mrs. Nolte teach the writing clinic. She is currently an English teacher at Bayard Jr./Sr. High School. The clinic was held June 20th, and it lasted two hours. Some of the kids stayed longer to type their letters. We served doughnuts, assorted juice, and assorted milk. Each child was given a writing notebook and a Dr. Seuss pencil they were able to take home. The kids were given two extra days to finish writing their letters. The finished letters were given to the instructor who picked the two best letters. The two winners each received a Kindle Fire. The remaining names were put into a drawing and three kids received \$20.00 cash each.

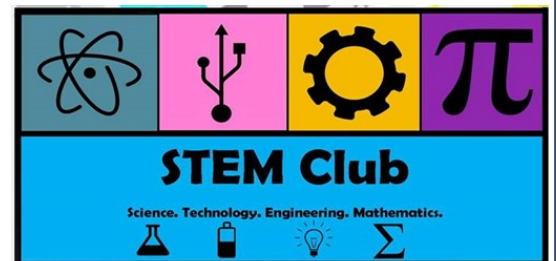
Article provided by Becky Henkel, Bayard PL Director

**Morrill Public Library:** Our letter writing clinic was small, but fun. Holly Walter was kind enough to help me. We had four students come to participate in the two workshops. At the first workshop we sat down and went over the books that inspired them, and created a pros/cons list for them, because there were so many books to look at. Once we got it narrowed down, we talked about what a good/bad letter would look like. The second workshop got the kids typing their letters. We are having our own competition where Cindy Larson and Sandra Lutz will be our judges. I will send the letters off to the actual competition.

Article provided by Sarah Alfred, Morrill PL Director

Have you heard about **STEM** Club at the Lied Scottsbluff Public Library? No? Then you need to mark your calendar. The first Tuesday of each month from 5-6 pm **STEM** Club meets. There's a different theme and challenge for ages Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

Not sure what **STEM** is? **STEM** stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Some of the past challenges were Hour of Coding for Kids, building Roller Coasters from recycled products, Edible Monument Geology, and Homemade Rockets. You never know what the Brainiacs of **STEM** will create, but it's a fun, immersive experience that builds on being a lifelong learner and that failure is an option! Remember Thomas Edison found 100 ways to not build a lightbulb! See you at the next **STEM** Club!



By Peggie Michal, Library Assistant and **STEM Guru**, Lied Scottsbluff Public Li-

# Happenings Around the System

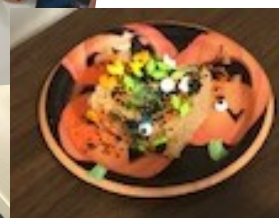
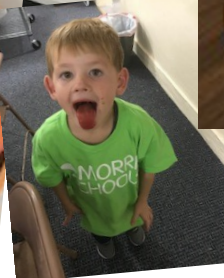


## Morrill Public Library's Holiday Happenings

### Jan Andrew's Literary Club/Hat Decorating Meeting



### Morrill Afterschool Halloween



Photos submitted by Sarah Alfred,  
Director, Morrill Public Library

## Hemingford Public School Librarian on Jeopardy!!!



Photos courtesy of Jill Hurt  
and Jeopardy Productions, Inc.

Jill Hurtt, Hemingford Public School Librarian, and WLS's board member and Secretary, appeared on Jeopardy with Alex Trebeck in August. Jill took an online test, then in July she auditioned in Denver and joined the applicant pool. She flew to L.A. for the taping on August 21.

Jill placed second! Way to go!

Congrats, Jill!





# Librarians Around The System

## Librarian Spotlight

### Welcome!!!

Marly Pehoviack is the new Director at the Hemingford Public Library. Marly, along with her assistants Mary Anne Gordon, Colleen Garner, and board member Barb Nikont, envision broadening their programs for preschoolers and revamping the services they offer for the adult patrons in the community. Coffee and cookies entice many to visit the library to socialize and read the newspaper and magazines. They are also planning to offer a Fiber Arts Workshop to introduce crafts such as knitting, crocheting and sewing to their patrons. Marly recognizes that the library serves her community members, and is taking measures to meet their needs and provide quality library services and materials for all. Welcome, Marly!



Pictured above are Mary Anne Gordon, Colleen Garner, Marly Pehoviack, and Board Member Barb Nikont. Photo provided by Jan Jolliffe.

## Librarian Spotlight



### Crawford Public Library Director : Marcella Thompson, with Cleone Hoyda, Children's /Youth Librarian



Marcella and Cleone are very excited about recent after school programs, including tutoring and service animals for the youth.

Welcome Marcella!

Sarah and her patrons are enjoying the new library updates, including a paint job and the stenciling on the walls. This makes the library a very inviting space for everyone to enjoy.



Welcome Sarah!



### Sioux County Public Library Director : Sarah Sanderson

## Librarian Spotlight

### Welcome to the Library, Miss Kenzie!

Hi, I am Mackenzie Watson (Miss Kenzie) – the new Teen Librarian/ Assistant Children’s Librarian at the Lied Scottsbluff Public Library. I have been on the job since August 27<sup>th</sup> and am learning lots as I go. I grew up in Mitchell, NE but, was involved in the summer reading programs at the Scottsbluff Library, so I feel like I have come home. I attended Chadron State College with the idea of being an English teacher, but ended up with a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. I love reading, writing, and books – especially young adult books – so being here is a perfect fit.

I have been working with Deb Carlson, Children’s Librarian, helping with Storytime and Lego Club. My first day at the library I was already helping at Lego Club! I love helping get ready teacher totes and planning Storytime. It has been a lot of fun. The Teen Advisory Council had their first meeting with me as their advisor on September 14<sup>th</sup>. They had already planned a fundraiser at Arby’s on September 25<sup>th</sup> and are planning an Escape Room event for October. I plan on setting up some special events for teens at the library. I am eager to get their suggestions and make the library a place that teens want to be. I am also helping run the Library Facebook and am excited about informing our patrons through that service and reaching out to a wider audience.

While in college I participated in ROTC and am now a Second Lieutenant in Army National Guard. I am currently the Strength Manager with the 67<sup>th</sup> Maneuver Enhancement Brigade in Lincoln, Nebraska. I have learned a lot about leadership and perseverance through my military experience which will be an asset for me at the library.

Outside of the job, when I am not reading- I love to bake and cook! On the days where I don’t cook I love to grab lunch at Runza with friends. I also love to hike; the Black Hills in South Dakota are my favorite hiking location (so far). I am excited to be a part of the Lied Scottsbluff Public Library --- please stop in and say “Hello!”

Article submitted by Mackenzie Watson, Lied Scottsbluff PL

## (Future???) Librarian Spotlight

### Congratulations, and Welcome to the (Library) World!!!



A joyous welcome to the newest patron of the Lied Scottsbluff Public Library. Psyche Alexandria joined Noelle and Robbie Thompson, along with big sister, Nimue (3), on September 11; which just happens to be Noelle’s birthday as well.

Congratulations, Noelle! Welcome to the library world, Psyche!!!





# Check This Out!!!

## CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S LIS CERTIFICATE

Central Community College offers a Library & Information Services (LIS) Certificate that consists of six online courses. This certificate is designed to provide students with a broad overview of the library profession, introduce theories and concepts integral to reference services, and offers studies in basic leadership and management skills. Courses are taught by seasoned librarians that have years of experience in a variety of different types of libraries. For more information about the program, please visit the website at [www.cccneb.edu/LIS](http://www.cccneb.edu/LIS).

For those who wish to earn UNO's 4-year degree in Library Science, the University of Nebraska in Omaha accepts CCC's 2-year Academic Transfer degree with the LIS certificate courses as 18-credits of electives.

Information provided by **DEE JOHNSON**  
LIBRARY RESOURCES DIRECTOR  
[djohnson@cccneb.edu](mailto:djohnson@cccneb.edu) | +1 402 562 1418

### Cover One Book Repair



The Western Library System has a binding repair machine that fixes a variety of types and sizes of books. Take advantage of this useful service to save your valuable books and avoid the cost of replacements. Go to <http://www.coverone.net/>

Bring your books into the WLS office to make your own repairs! Call the WLS office for an appointment: 308-632-1350, Toll-Free 888-879-5303.

### Disc Cleaning and Repair!



The Western Library System has the RTI ECO-SMART Disc Repair System. It is not just a buffer, but a full-service machine, to both clean and repair your valuable discs. Save those discs that won't play! As long as they are not cracked, we can fix them.

From July 1, 2017 thru June 30, 2018, each WLS member library has 10 free disc cleanings. If you have any questions, please call the WLS office.

### WLS Board of Directors:

Maryruth Reed, President	Kathy Terrell, Vice President
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